

Communiversity

**Mapping Child Care Equity and
School Readiness Disparities**

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Greater Minneapolis Daycare Association
MN Child Care Resource and Referral Network

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Mapping Child Care Equity and School Readiness Disparities

Availability, Quality, and K-3 Outcomes

Julia Tabbut
Fall 2006

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Child Care Closings, Children under Five, & School Readiness

Background: When children come to kindergarten ready, the whole state benefits. Their learning experiences from birth to age five prepare children for success in school and in life. Meanwhile, nearly 70 percent of parents with young children in Minnesota are in the workforce and rely on child care programs to provide their children with safe, healthy environments, nurturing, and early learning—the foundations for school readiness. Research shows that all children can benefit from quality child care, but when parents who earn low wages or have little formal education can access quality child care, their children get a boost and can “catch up” to their more advantaged peers.

In 2003, the Minnesota State Legislature enacted policies that resulted in the loss of over 200 million dollars in child care funding from 2003 to 2005. This put tremendous financial pressure both on low-wage working parents and on the child care providers that serve them. As a result, 20 percent of the licensed child care providers in Hennepin County have gone out of business, and parents have reported increasing barriers in their search for stable, quality child care.

Purpose & Methodology: These maps show the loss of child care availability during the two-year period when the funding cuts took effect. The Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association collected data on all active licensed child care providers in Hennepin County between November 2004 and June 2006, including the dates that they became active, and, if appropriate, the dates that they closed. Those dates, along with the licensed capacity of each provider, were used to determine the net change in availability for each zip code. Census data provided the number of children under five in each zip code, which was used to show the proportional impact of the closings. Third grade test scores have a high correlation to children’s kindergarten readiness, and provide an indication of the zip code areas where effective, nurturing child care is most needed.

Results: As the maps clearly show, following the 2003 funding cuts to child care, many areas saw a significant loss of licensed child care spaces. This is despite a rise in the number of children under five and a growing number of mothers in the labor force; there has been no decrease in demand.

In Minneapolis, there is a moderate correlation between the severity of the loss of child care in each zip code and children’s success on the third grade MCA II test ($r = 0.34$). This indicates that the children who most need stable, quality child care are also most likely to be losing it. The strong link between race and income and test success (the percentage of non-Hispanic whites in a zip code correlates to test success at $r = 0.86$; median income correlates to test success at $r = 0.87$) coincides with the moderate links between race and child care losses and income and child care losses ($r = 0.52$ and $r = 0.41$, respectively).

In Hennepin County as a whole, there is little statistical evidence that the severity of child care losses is linked to race and income (the correlations are $r = -0.01$ and $r = 0.14$, respectively). It is interesting to note, however, that every zip code that gained slots is at least 90% non-Hispanic white and has a median income above \$80,000.

Convenience also becomes an issue with the lack of child care availability. In Minneapolis, zip codes where residents more often work within thirty minutes of home, and have a shorter range of convenient options, lost fewer slots on average ($r = 0.58$) Minneapolis zip codes where people are more likely to take the bus to work, which also limits the convenience of many child care options, suffered slightly greater losses ($r = -0.21$).*

* All data, unless otherwise stated, came from the 2000 Census.

Child Care Availability, Children under Five, & School Readiness

Background: Minneapolis has one of the largest K-12 achievement gaps in the country. A critical predictor of educational disparities is a lack of accessible, quality child care and early education. Measures of quality include national accreditation by a nationally recognized body or the providers' level of education in child development. Only 12 percent of child care centers and less than 1 percent of licensed family child care providers in Minnesota have sought and achieved accreditation. The quality designation used for these maps includes providers' training beyond licensing requirements as well as program accreditation—both indicators of quality that parents look for when choosing quality care for their children.

Purpose & Methodology: These maps show the relationship between the availability of quality and other child care slots and the success of children on third grade test scores. The Greater Minneapolis Day Care Association had collected data on all active licensed child care providers in Hennepin County through June 2006, including the accreditation status and education credentials or degrees of each provider. This information was used to designate “quality providers”, and the licensed capacity of each provider was used to determine the total availability for each zip code. Census data provided the number of children under five in each zip code, which was used to show the proportional availability. Third grade MCA II test results are used as a measure of school readiness.

Results: It would be simplistic to think that people never leave their zip code of residence for child care. The maps make it clear, especially by the abundance of child care in downtown Minneapolis, where very few children live, that parents often choose child care near their work instead of near their home. Also, child care providers do not always choose to operate at full licensed capacity; and, as explained on the maps, many of the spaces in licensed child care are occupied by older children. Both factors leave preschool-aged children with fewer slots than the maps would indicate. However, these factors appear fairly evenly across zip codes, so the effects of the data are not severely impacted.

There seems to be only a very low correlation between school readiness and the availability of child care. In Minneapolis, the availability of quality slots correlates to test success at $r = 0.21$, which is significantly less even than the correlation between quality slots and median income ($r = 0.39$). Since income correlates strongly to test success ($r = 0.87$), one would expect that income and test success would relate similarly to availability of quality child care. However, they do not. Clearly, much more investment needs to be made in quality child care in order to ensure that it can overcome the obstacles in its path to equitable preparation of elementary schoolers.

Table A: Child Care Availability in Hennepin County
(Excluding Minneapolis Zip Codes)

| Zip Code | Children under Five | Total Child Care Slots | Identified Quality Child Care Slots | % Children w/Child Care Available | % Children w/Quality Child Care | % Workers Employed in Mpls | % Workers Traveling < 30 Min. to Work | % Workers Taking Public Transit |
|----------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 55313 | 1375 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7.15 | 54.25 | 0.22 |
| 55353 | 207 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 24.89 | 64.83 | 0.07 |
| 55387 | 766 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6.69 | 58.04 | 0.26 |
| 55388 | 330 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6.89 | 53.34 | 0.76 |
| 55373 | 416 | 12 | 0 | 2.88 | 0.00 | 8.99 | 50.46 | 0.46 |
| 55340 | 449 | 98 | 0 | 21.83 | 0.00 | 13.35 | 61.71 | 0.65 |
| 55375 | 204 | 62 | 0 | 30.39 | 0.00 | 8.40 | 50.75 | 0.37 |
| 55424 | 779 | 293 | 0 | 37.61 | 0.00 | 34.33 | 83.19 | 3.16 |
| 55359 | 337 | 154 | 0 | 45.70 | 0.00 | 13.60 | 61.00 | 1.05 |
| 55384 | 52 | 50 | 0 | 96.15 | 0.00 | 18.55 | 54.01 | 2.67 |
| 55437 | 892 | 620 | 14 | 69.51 | 1.57 | 19.11 | 79.88 | 2.98 |
| 55311 | 1714 | 636 | 44 | 37.11 | 2.57 | 18.41 | 57.44 | 3.68 |
| 55357 | 295 | 220 | 10 | 74.58 | 3.39 | 13.27 | 50.94 | 0.56 |
| 55328 | 570 | 20 | 20 | 3.51 | 3.51 | 8.73 | 53.34 | 0.60 |
| 55429 | 1802 | 525 | 64 | 29.13 | 3.55 | 24.13 | 71.19 | 4.83 |
| 55436 | 623 | 276 | 24 | 44.30 | 3.85 | 29.47 | 81.45 | 2.45 |
| 55327 | 267 | 90 | 12 | 33.71 | 4.49 | 14.62 | 52.43 | 4.61 |
| 55420 | 1246 | 755 | 56 | 60.59 | 4.49 | 18.00 | 77.58 | 3.61 |
| 55442 | 974 | 549 | 46 | 56.37 | 4.72 | 20.05 | 68.28 | 2.73 |
| 55331 | 1204 | 450 | 72 | 37.38 | 5.98 | 14.48 | 62.94 | 1.14 |
| 55345 | 1349 | 763 | 88 | 56.56 | 6.52 | 19.45 | 73.79 | 2.36 |
| 55364 | 954 | 277 | 66 | 29.04 | 6.92 | 15.06 | 49.64 | 1.47 |
| 55346 | 1394 | 514 | 98 | 36.87 | 7.03 | 16.43 | 74.52 | 2.12 |
| 55444 | 1169 | 509 | 114 | 43.54 | 9.75 | 28.78 | 71.08 | 4.14 |
| 55356 | 266 | 270 | 26 | 101.50 | 9.77 | 14.14 | 67.40 | 1.51 |
| 55427 | 1429 | 1030 | 154 | 72.08 | 10.78 | 23.05 | 77.40 | 3.76 |
| 55426 | 1508 | 542 | 175 | 35.94 | 11.60 | 25.70 | 81.89 | 6.00 |
| 55374 | 990 | 757 | 136 | 76.46 | 13.74 | 13.98 | 51.76 | 0.67 |
| 55391 | 896 | 614 | 126 | 68.53 | 14.06 | 21.31 | 72.12 | 2.05 |
| 55438 | 853 | 203 | 131 | 23.80 | 15.36 | 19.49 | 76.46 | 1.70 |
| 55443 | 2187 | 1244 | 368 | 56.88 | 16.83 | 25.73 | 65.27 | 4.50 |
| 55422 | 1750 | 1122 | 333 | 64.11 | 19.03 | 28.29 | 77.20 | 4.25 |
| 55428 | 1981 | 1321 | 390 | 66.68 | 19.69 | 21.96 | 71.49 | 3.53 |
| 55446 | 1014 | 430 | 210 | 42.41 | 20.71 | 19.74 | 66.13 | 1.36 |
| 55445 | 758 | 533 | 164 | 70.32 | 21.64 | 24.02 | 64.47 | 2.59 |
| 55447 | 1683 | 876 | 371 | 52.05 | 22.04 | 18.92 | 70.92 | 2.92 |
| 55347 | 2001 | 888 | 448 | 44.38 | 22.39 | 15.17 | 75.12 | 1.95 |
| 55343 | 1328 | 862 | 301 | 64.91 | 22.67 | 19.80 | 79.77 | 4.30 |
| 55425 | 546 | 645 | 126 | 118.13 | 23.08 | 19.80 | 79.59 | 3.58 |
| 55423 | 2089 | 1514 | 497 | 72.47 | 23.79 | 26.24 | 78.80 | 6.36 |
| 55316 | 1856 | 1247 | 497 | 67.19 | 26.78 | 20.35 | 53.12 | 3.75 |
| 55369 | 2161 | 2160 | 619 | 99.95 | 28.64 | 19.36 | 61.74 | 2.69 |
| 55431 | 995 | 967 | 301 | 97.19 | 30.25 | 20.23 | 78.07 | 3.07 |
| 55344 | 914 | 1461 | 320 | 159.85 | 35.01 | 13.54 | 80.74 | 4.85 |
| 55305 | 888 | 689 | 407 | 77.59 | 45.83 | 25.02 | 79.00 | 3.20 |
| 55439 | 437 | 345 | 239 | 78.95 | 54.69 | 28.65 | 80.14 | 2.17 |
| 55441 | 979 | 1243 | 548 | 126.97 | 55.98 | 21.53 | 74.05 | 2.03 |
| 55435 | 394 | 768 | 264 | 194.92 | 67.01 | 24.95 | 77.12 | 4.94 |

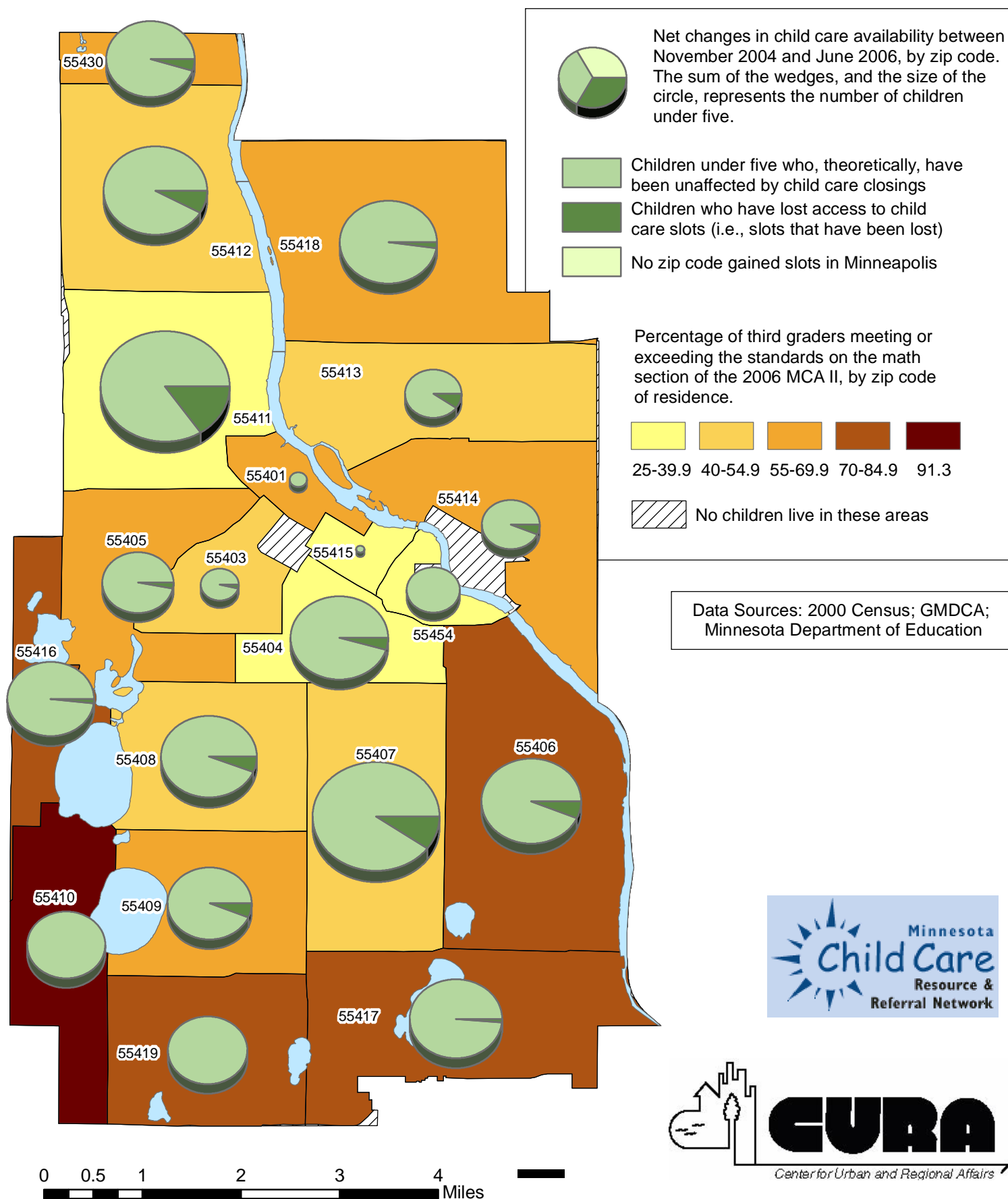
| Table B: Child Care Availability in Minneapolis | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Zip Code | Children under Five | Total Child Care Slots | Identified Quality Child Care Slots | % Children with Child Care Available | % Children with Quality Child Care Available | 3rd Graders' MCA II Success | % Workers Employed in Mpls | % Workers Traveling < 30 Min. to Work | % Workers Taking Public Transit |
| 55401 | 60 | 169 | 0 | 281.67 | 0.00 | 66.7 | 68.84 | 80.88 | 13.12 |
| 55412 | 2124 | 691 | 72 | 32.53 | 3.39 | 54.4 | 53.03 | 70.11 | 12.42 |
| 55418 | 1871 | 766 | 111 | 40.94 | 5.93 | 81.1 | 55.06 | 75.64 | 10.72 |
| 55408 | 1819 | 670 | 149 | 36.83 | 8.19 | 58.9 | 59.98 | 74.94 | 20.50 |
| 55406 | 1961 | 669 | 165 | 34.12 | 8.41 | 53.4 | 63.48 | 77.80 | 10.92 |
| 55417 | 1689 | 548 | 163 | 32.45 | 9.65 | 68.3 | 49.22 | 78.49 | 8.04 |
| 55416 | 1499 | 1152 | 172 | 76.85 | 11.47 | 78.4 | 38.03 | 84.38 | 6.43 |
| 55454 | 562 | 134 | 68 | 23.84 | 12.10 | | 57.59 | 78.53 | 19.25 |
| 55407 | 3206 | 1274 | 396 | 39.74 | 12.35 | 49.7 | 58.70 | 71.63 | 15.72 |
| 55430 | 1559 | 799 | 217 | 51.25 | 13.92 | 56 | 35.52 | 73.48 | 7.88 |
| 55410 | 1219 | 602 | 188 | 49.38 | 15.42 | 39.1 | 49.88 | 78.33 | 6.84 |
| 55405 | 1005 | 360 | 238 | 35.82 | 23.68 | 70.3 | 64.74 | 82.14 | 19.29 |
| 55404 | 1882 | 881 | 513 | 46.81 | 27.26 | 57 | 67.14 | 73.88 | 26.43 |
| 55411 | 3308 | 2307 | 929 | 69.74 | 28.08 | 47.5 | 59.97 | 68.33 | 18.14 |
| 55413 | 633 | 388 | 231 | 61.30 | 36.49 | 63.3 | 64.58 | 78.28 | 15.59 |
| 55419 | 1244 | 865 | 487 | 69.53 | 39.15 | 37.5 | 50.53 | 80.72 | 9.39 |
| 55414 | 662 | 582 | 376 | 87.92 | 56.80 | 28.6 | 68.63 | 84.58 | 12.04 |
| 55403 | 281 | 612 | 206 | 217.79 | 73.31 | 35.8 | 68.00 | 80.50 | 21.28 |
| 55409 | 1409 | 1620 | 1165 | 114.98 | 82.68 | 91.3 | 57.61 | 78.64 | 12.55 |
| 55415 | 13 | 156 | 70 | 1200.00 | 538.46 | 75 | 68.75 | 71.29 | 16.99 |
| 55111 | 0 | 138 | 0 | | | | | | |
| 55402 | 0 | 146 | 0 | | | 52.4 | 83.53 | 91.76 | 5.88 |
| 55450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| 55455 | 0 | 140 | 140 | | | | 71.55 | 88.30 | 10.09 |

| Table C: Child Care Closings in Minneapolis | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Zip Code | Children under Five | Net Change in Child Care Availability | % Change in Child Care Availability | 3rd Grader MCA II Success | Percent White, Non-Hispanic | Median Family Income |
| 55412 | 2124 | -159 | -18.71 | 47.50 | 49.28 | \$ 36,004 |
| 55407 | 3206 | -287 | -18.39 | 53.40 | 44.99 | \$ 34,406 |
| 55411 | 3308 | -484 | -17.34 | 39.10 | 17.65 | \$ 26,202 |
| 55406 | 1961 | -113 | -14.45 | 70.30 | 75.58 | \$ 47,518 |
| 55408 | 1819 | -98 | -12.76 | 49.70 | 58.24 | \$ 28,280 |
| 55413 | 633 | -56 | -12.61 | 54.40 | 72.77 | \$ 32,804 |
| 55430 | 1559 | -70 | -8.06 | 56.00 | 63.83 | \$ 38,655 |
| 55404 | 1882 | -77 | -8.04 | 35.80 | 38.86 | \$ 20,955 |
| 55405 | 1005 | -28 | -7.22 | 57.00 | 66.93 | \$ 39,063 |
| 55414 | 662 | -38 | -6.13 | 63.30 | 77.12 | \$ 41,528 |
| 55418 | 1871 | -40 | -4.96 | 68.30 | 81.61 | \$ 48,041 |
| 55409 | 1409 | -80 | -4.71 | 58.90 | 72.95 | \$ 67,788 |
| 55417 | 1689 | -21 | -3.69 | 78.40 | 83.93 | \$ 62,159 |
| 55416 | 1499 | -25 | -2.12 | 75.00 | 91.79 | \$ 80,876 |
| 55403 | 281 | -10 | -1.61 | 52.40 | 78.02 | \$ 56,136 |
| 55419 | 1244 | -12 | -1.37 | 81.10 | 85.19 | \$ 81,460 |
| 55454 | 562 | -1 | -0.74 | 37.50 | 35.56 | \$ 18,606 |
| 55401 | 60 | 0 | 0.00 | 66.70 | 78.38 | \$ 37,188 |
| 55415 | 13 | 0 | 0.00 | 28.60 | 49.44 | \$ 16,250 |
| 55402 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 65.03 | \$ 6,250 |
| 55455 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 89.01 | |
| 55410 | 1219 | 10 | 1.69 | 91.30 | 93.05 | \$ 85,452 |

Table D: Child Care Closings in Hennepin County
(Excluding Minneapolis Zip Codes)

| Zip Code | Children under Five | Net Change in Child Care Availability | Percent Change in Child Care Availability | Percent White, Non-Hispanic | Median Family Income |
|----------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 55313 | 1375 | -10 | -100.00 | 96.98 | \$ 61,508 |
| 55373 | 416 | -83 | -87.37 | 94.74 | \$ 54,417 |
| 55375 | 204 | -24 | -27.91 | 94.55 | \$ 67,955 |
| 55340 | 449 | -37 | -27.41 | 97.32 | \$ 87,903 |
| 55438 | 853 | -68 | -25.09 | 90.40 | \$ 92,898 |
| 55327 | 267 | -23 | -20.35 | 95.97 | \$ 72,143 |
| 55444 | 1169 | -105 | -17.10 | 76.07 | \$ 69,755 |
| 55429 | 1802 | -98 | -15.73 | 68.89 | \$ 47,037 |
| 55443 | 2187 | -213 | -14.62 | 72.15 | \$ 63,626 |
| 55346 | 1394 | -87 | -14.48 | 92.13 | \$ 89,950 |
| 55428 | 1981 | -207 | -13.55 | 78.58 | \$ 49,861 |
| 55364 | 954 | -40 | -12.62 | 96.68 | \$ 74,740 |
| 55316 | 1856 | -167 | -11.81 | 94.58 | \$ 69,242 |
| 55391 | 896 | -79 | -11.40 | 97.32 | \$ 121,669 |
| 55343 | 1328 | -106 | -10.95 | 83.98 | \$ 56,658 |
| 55420 | 1246 | -84 | -10.01 | 83.03 | \$ 53,797 |
| 55441 | 979 | -138 | -9.99 | 89.20 | \$ 83,727 |
| 55422 | 1750 | -120 | -9.66 | 87.97 | \$ 61,443 |
| 55425 | 546 | -54 | -7.73 | 73.94 | \$ 46,439 |
| 55305 | 888 | -51 | -6.89 | 92.21 | \$ 90,572 |
| 55357 | 295 | -16 | -6.78 | 97.63 | \$ 85,185 |
| 55426 | 1508 | -37 | -6.39 | 84.86 | \$ 52,083 |
| 55424 | 779 | -20 | -6.39 | 95.23 | \$ 114,246 |
| 55427 | 1429 | -68 | -6.19 | 89.23 | \$ 63,298 |
| 55439 | 437 | -22 | -5.99 | 93.87 | \$ 112,873 |
| 55369 | 2161 | -133 | -5.80 | 94.18 | \$ 72,032 |
| 55311 | 1714 | -36 | -5.36 | 93.61 | \$ 93,231 |
| 55445 | 758 | -30 | -5.33 | 75.58 | \$ 68,346 |
| 55345 | 1349 | -41 | -5.10 | 95.40 | \$ 91,414 |
| 55344 | 914 | -78 | -5.07 | 83.00 | \$ 60,473 |
| 55331 | 1204 | -20 | -4.26 | 96.83 | \$ 102,477 |
| 55423 | 2089 | -60 | -3.81 | 78.50 | \$ 56,503 |
| 55437 | 892 | -15 | -2.36 | 89.70 | \$ 72,003 |
| 55347 | 2001 | -8 | -0.89 | 91.30 | \$ 112,719 |
| 55328 | 570 | 0 | 0.00 | 97.71 | \$ 65,233 |
| 55353 | 207 | 0 | 0.00 | 98.34 | \$ 50,938 |
| 55356 | 266 | 0 | 0.00 | 96.02 | \$ 85,795 |
| 55359 | 337 | 0 | 0.00 | 98.28 | \$ 76,774 |
| 55384 | 52 | 0 | 0.00 | 94.79 | \$ 36,750 |
| 55387 | 766 | 0 | 0.00 | 96.08 | \$ 73,259 |
| 55388 | 330 | 0 | 0.00 | 97.05 | \$ 59,091 |
| 55431 | 995 | 0 | 0.00 | 91.15 | \$ 71,023 |
| 55435 | 394 | 0 | 0.00 | 89.58 | \$ 89,174 |
| 55446 | 1014 | 0 | 0.00 | 89.83 | \$ 113,402 |
| 55442 | 974 | 10 | 1.86 | 91.78 | \$ 98,862 |
| 55374 | 990 | 21 | 2.85 | 97.23 | \$ 84,425 |
| 55436 | 623 | 10 | 3.76 | 94.89 | \$ 118,339 |
| 55447 | 1683 | 70 | 8.68 | 90.62 | \$ 96,198 |

Child Care Closings, Children under Five, & School Readiness in Minneapolis



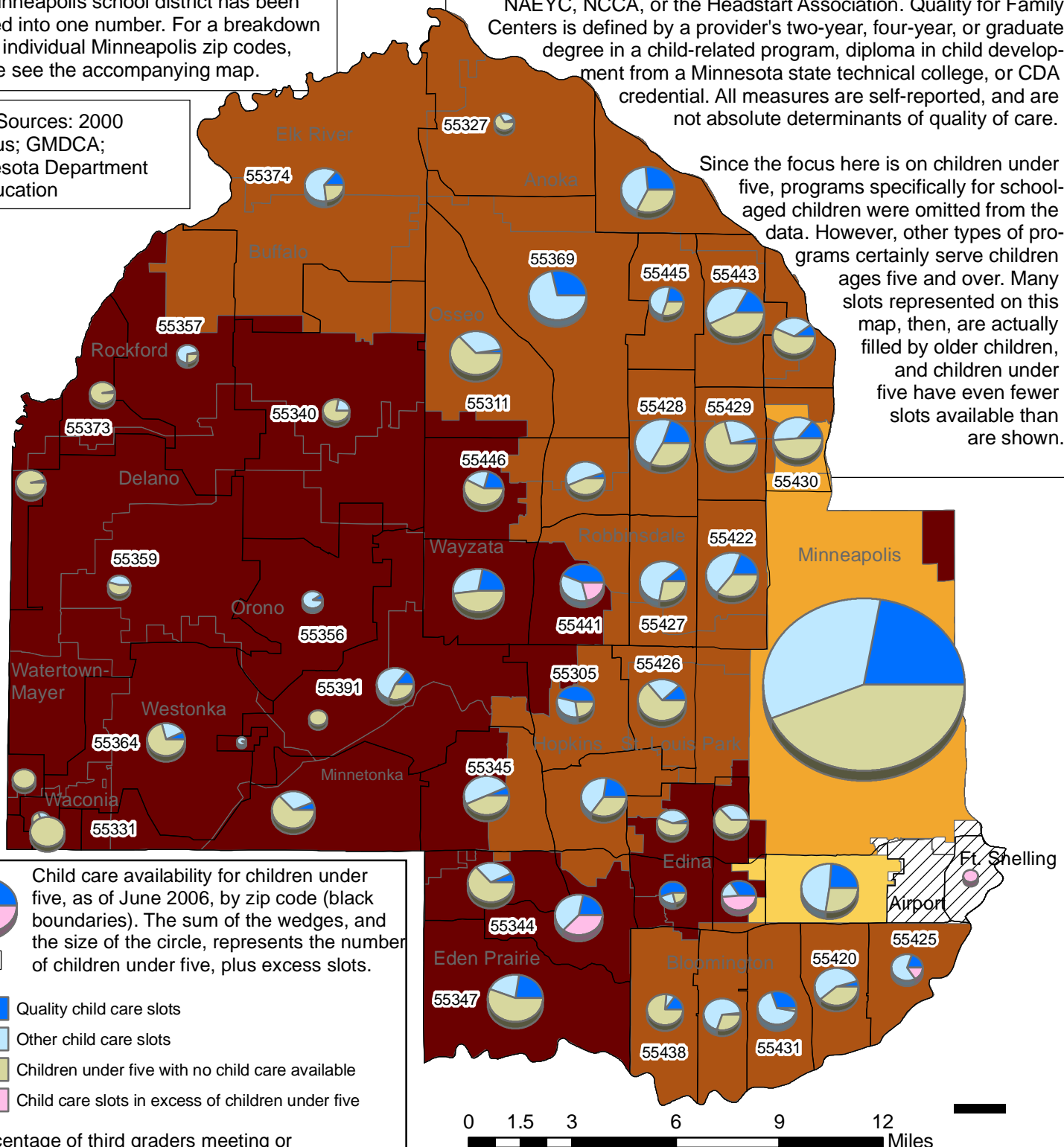
Child Care Availability, Children under Five, & School Readiness in Hennepin County

On this map, all child care data from within the Minneapolis school district has been lumped into one number. For a breakdown of the individual Minneapolis zip codes, please see the accompanying map.

Data Sources: 2000 Census; GMDCA; Minnesota Department of Education

Notes: "Quality" for Child Care Centers is defined by accreditation by NAEYC, NCCA, or the Headstart Association. Quality for Family Centers is defined by a provider's two-year, four-year, or graduate degree in a child-related program, diploma in child development from a Minnesota state technical college, or CDA credential. All measures are self-reported, and are not absolute determinants of quality of care.

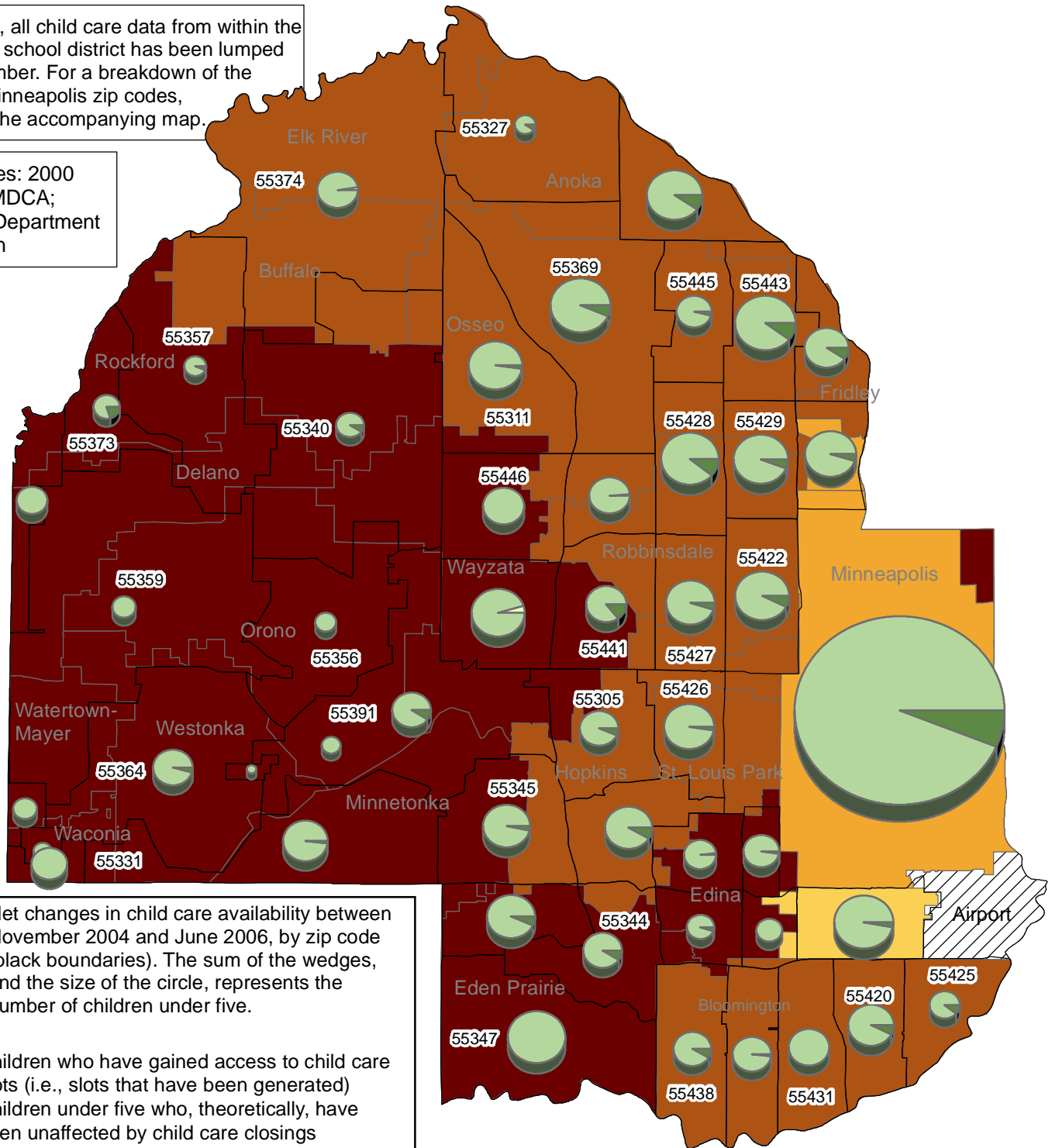
Since the focus here is on children under five, programs specifically for school-aged children were omitted from the data. However, other types of programs certainly serve children ages five and over. Many slots represented on this map, then, are actually filled by older children, and children under five have even fewer slots available than are shown.



Child Care Closings, Children under Five, & School Readiness in Hennepin County

On this map, all child care data from within the Minneapolis school district has been lumped into one number. For a breakdown of the individual Minneapolis zip codes, please see the accompanying map.

Data Sources: 2000 Census; GMDCA; Minnesota Department of Education

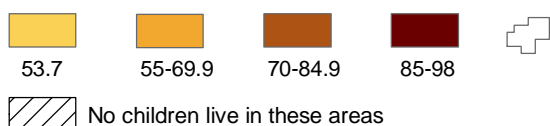


Net changes in child care availability between November 2004 and June 2006, by zip code (black boundaries). The sum of the wedges, and the size of the circle, represents the number of children under five.



- Children who have gained access to child care slots (i.e., slots that have been generated)
- Children under five who, theoretically, have been unaffected by child care closings
- Children who have lost access to child care slots (i.e., slots that have been lost)

Percentage of third graders meeting or exceeding the standards on the math section of the 2006 MCA II, by school district (gray boundaries)



0 1.5 3 6 9 12 Miles



Map produced December 30, 2006, by Julia Tabbut

Child Care Availability, Children under Five, & School Readiness in Minneapolis

